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USW Local 2701 president George Gardner (third from right) pickets with members of his union outside Geneva Steel.

Steve Olsen Photo

Air France jet skidded off runway when landing gear collapsed after touchdown in Rio de Janeiro, but no one was hurt.

Common Market Leaders In Deadlock at End of Meet

LUXEMBOURG (AP) — Leaders of 12 West European nations began a final day of talks today on reshaping the Common Market to revitalize its economic base and meet the challenge of expansion.

Nicaragua, Cuba
adopt an economic plan proposed by Treasury Secretary James Baker.

Foreign ministers of the 10 member countries had spent much of the past three months trying to agree on changes to the treaty. They could not agree on any changes but submitted a list of

said he expected leaders to issue general declaration of intent to reform the Common Market.

The leaders also are working for a declaration of support for

He said U.S. Steel has tried to reduce costs to try to compete in a steel market made unfair by the Reagan administration's refusal to end what Gardner called "unfair foreign competition," through its tariff powers.

"But when we go along with one contracting proposal, they take two, and it's almost a sign of weakness on our part."

Gardner also blamed Reagan for giving a green light to American industry to diminish union membership by his decision to fire striking union air-traffic controllers.

Gardner said he isn't convinced that U.S. Steel, the nation's largest steel producer, is trying to bust the union by its contracting of some peripheral steel plant jobs.

The local president said this morning's demonstration was as much against Reagan's policies as against U.S. Steel's management. But he said the company still has a responsibility of abiding by Section 2-C and other labor-management contracts.

"That action was like the shot heard round the world," Gardner said. Gardner said Reagan sent an anti-union message by firing the strikers. And he said if it would have not occurred, he believes U.S. Steel and other corporations would not be making the inroads they are making by replacing union members with non-union contract labor.

Gardner said this morning's demonstration is the first local demonstration against U.S. Steel since 1959, and he said the demonstration was conducted to focus attention on contracting out before dialogue begins possibly in January on a new labor/management agreement. The present labor contract expires this summer.